THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) The details are as under:

(Rs. in crores)

Sl. No.	Year	Amount allocated for development of NHs.
1.	1993-94	63.50
2.	1994-95	56.50
3.	1995-96	46.00 (proposed)

(b) and (c) Development, maintenance and repairs of National Highways is a continuous activity and works are taken up in various States including Gujarat in a phased manner keeping in view certain factors such as intensity of traffic, *inter-se* priority of works and availability of funds.

Full Utilization of waterways

2620. SHRI SURINDER KUMAR SINGLA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Natural waterways not fully utilised" as reported in 'Statesman' dated the 30th January, 1995;

(b) if so, whether Government have put in only a few transport vessels on waterways;

(c) if so, the reasons for not fully utilising the waterways;

(d) whether schemes were also made to allow private entry in this regard; and

(e) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. As far as Government is concerned, Central Inland Water Transport Corporation Ltd., Calcutta (a public sector undertaking under Ministry of Surface Transport) is operating all their cargo vessels in National Waterways No. 1 (the Ganga-Bhagirathi-Hooghly river system), and 2 (the Brahmaputra).

The Government of India is primarily concerned with the development and maintenance of National Waterways, through Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI). The IWAI has schemes to develop these waterways for full utilisation in phases, depending on cargo offering.

(d) to (e) The National Waterways can be used by any private operator. Besides, the IWAI has introduced incentive schemes to promote inland water transportation by private operators.

Declaration of New National Highways in Gujarat

2621. SHRI KANAKSINH MOHANSINH MANGROLA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any proposals for declaring new national highways in Gujarat; if so, which roads are proposed to be declared as natioal highways;

(b) which roads would be declared as national highways in Gujarat during the 8th Five Year Plan; and

(c) the probable time when such roads are to be declared as national highways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c) The Government of Gujarat has forwarded ten proposals aggregating to a length of 2510 km. for declaring as new Naional Highways in the 8th Five Year Plan. However, owing to meagre allocation of funds for National Highways during the Eighth Plan, it is difficult to decalre new National Highways in any State including Gujarat at this point of time.